



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 229

February Session, 2014



AN ACT CONCERNING SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section and sections 2 to 4, inclusive, of this act, "intramural or
3 interscholastic athletics" shall include any activity sponsored by a
4 school or local education agency, as defined in section 10-15f of the
5 general statutes, or an organization sanctioned by the local education
6 agency that involves any athletic contest, practice, scrimmage,
7 competition, demonstration, display or club activity.

8 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
9 year thereafter, the State Board of Education, in consultation with (1)
10 the Commissioner of Public Health, (2) the governing authority for
11 intramural and interscholastic athletics, (3) an appropriate
12 organization representing licensed athletic trainers, and (4) an
13 organization representing county medical associations, shall develop
14 or approve a sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program for
15 use by local and regional boards of education. Such program shall be
16 published on the State Board of Education's Internet web site and shall
17 include: (A) The warning signs and symptoms associated with a
18 sudden cardiac arrest, (B) the risks associated with continuing to
19 engage in intramural or interscholastic athletics after exhibiting such
20 warning signs and symptoms, (C) the means of obtaining proper

21 medical treatment for a person suspected of experiencing a sudden
22 cardiac arrest, and (D) the proper method of allowing a student who
23 has experienced a sudden cardiac arrest to return to intramural or
24 interscholastic athletics. When developing or approving such program,
25 the State Board of Education may utilize existing materials developed
26 by organizations such as Simon's Fund.

27 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) For the school year
28 commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any person
29 who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of
30 Education and is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics shall
31 annually review the program developed or approved pursuant to
32 subsection (b) of section 1 of this act, prior to commencing the
33 coaching assignment for the season of such intramural or
34 interscholastic athletics.

35 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) (1) The coach of any
36 intramural or interscholastic athletics shall immediately remove a
37 student from participating in any intramural or interscholastic athletics
38 who is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent
39 with a sudden cardiac arrest.

40 (2) The coach shall not permit such student to participate in any
41 intramural or interscholastic athletics until such student receives
42 written clearance to participate in such intramural or interscholastic
43 athletics from a licensed health care professional.

44 (b) For purposes of this section, "licensed health care professional"
45 means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general
46 statutes, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the
47 general statutes, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed
48 pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes.

49 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) The State Board of Education
50 may revoke the coaching permit, in accordance with the provisions of
51 subsection (i) of section 10-145b of the general statutes, of any coach

52 found to be in violation of any of the provisions of sections 2 and 3 of
53 this act.

54 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) Any person who holds or is
55 issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education and is a
56 coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics shall be immune from
57 suit and liability, both personally and in his or her official capacity, for
58 any actions or omissions pursuant to the provisions of sections 2 and 3
59 of this act, unless the actions or omissions of such person constitute
60 wilful misconduct, gross negligence or recklessness.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*